

REMARKS

35 USC 112 2nd Paragraph: Claim 24

Applicant has amended claim 24 to correct the typographical error identified by the Examiner.

35 USC 102(b): CLAIMS 1-8, 10, 12, 14-26, 28, 31-44

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-10, 12, 14-28, and 31-44 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,742,769 (Lee et al.) "Lee '769". Claims 1, 5, 8, 10, 26, and 28 are currently amended. More specifically, Claim 1 as amended recites, *inter alia*, the relationship between an old address and a new address of a changer. Claim 5 as amended recites, *inter alia*, that an IP address and a URL can be an option of the old address and the new address. Support for this amendment can be found on page 12, lines 22-27 of the Specification. Claim 8 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 9. Claim 9 is canceled. Claim 26 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 27. Claim 27 is canceled. Claims 10 and 28 have been amended to depend on Claims 8 and 26 respectively.

Regarding Claim 1, the address inquiry system recited in Claim 1 requires that a changer has changed his or her old address to a new one. The system of Claim 1 includes a database relationally storing at least the old address, the new address, and an address disclosing condition capable of setting a condition whereby the changer judges whether to give permission to disclose the new address based on attribute information about the inquirer. The new address and the address disclosing condition from the database is searched from the database when the inquirer sends an inquiry including the old address. The system then makes the changer confirm whether the new address is disclosed when the address disclosing condition in searching includes the set

condition. The system informs the inquirer of the new address when the changer permits the disclosure of the new address.

Lee '769 discloses a directory service system that allows a user to receive email messages from senders without requiring the user to reveal his or her email address. However, Lee '769 does not disclose a database that relationally stores the old address and the new address of the user. Further, Lee '769 does not disclose that a new address is searched and presented to an inquirer on a certain condition as recited in the present invention of Claim 1.

Similarly, Claims 8 and 26 as amended incorporate an old address of a registrant that is not disclosed in the Lee reference. Claims 8 and 26 are patentable for at least this reason. Claims 2-7 and 42 incorporate all the limitations of Claim 1 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as Claim 1. Claims 10, 12, 14-25, and 43 incorporate all the limitations of Claim 8 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as Claim 8. Claims 28, 31-41, and 44 incorporate all the limitations of Claim 26 and are patentable for at least the same reasons as Claim 26.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is believed that the claims in this application are now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
DANN DORFMAN HERRELL AND SKILLMAN
A Professional Corporation
Attorneys for Applicants



Paul Roberts
PTO Registration No. 56990

Phone (215) 563 4100
Fax (215) 563 4044
e-mail: proberts@ddhs.com